



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MURAKAMI et al.

Atty. Ref.: 249-230

Serial No. 09/482,731

Group: 1771

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May 5, 2003

Mail Stop AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Office Action dated February 5, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-15, 17-21, 23-27, 29-34, 36-41, 43 and 49-51 are present in this application.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 19-21, 23, 24 and 49-51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Japanese Patent Publication 10-182865 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,522,165 to Ogawa. This rejection is respectfully traversed.